

THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 114, WAYLAND, MASS.

A. D. HOCH, EDITOR

Vol. 3, No. 1

Jan.-Mar. 1962

Serial No. 6

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LETTERS

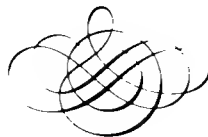
Colonial Newsletter Editor:

The 1787 Connecticut Cent Miller 33(2)-Z(5), as described and illustrated in the July Newsletter has me puzzled. The two strikings don't appear to be from the same die! (1) The distances from A of Auctori to C of Connec are different and (2) the circle of the incuse lettering is smaller than that of the normal lettering. (3) In addition, the positions of the cinquefoils to the C's are different.

I haven't tried to determine what die the incuse striking is, but this might not be too difficult if one measured the A to C distance and/or the lettering circle and compared it to the other dies. I'm wondering if the incuse lettering position is exactly the same as its companion relief striking. This would indicate whether the metal moved on the second striking and the validity of using the A to C and circle measurements to find the original die.

If two dies were involved it's easier to explain how it happened. The planchet first got into the press for the obverse relief and incuse striking, was then tossed into the scrap (and/or back into the "new" pile), and restruck later with the second pair of dies. This would eliminate the removing, turning over, and restriking procedure as given in the second from last paragraph of E. R. Barnsley's article.

W. Philip Keller



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● A NEW SUB-VARIETY OF KENTUCKY TOKEN ●

OBVERSE: Regular dies, early die state

REVERSE: Regular dies, early state

edge device: PAYABLE AT I. FIELDINGS MANCHESTER*

This coin is slightly larger than most Kentucky pieces encountered, being 1.197" in diameter, where 8 regularly lettered edges measured from a minimum of 1.130" to a maximum of 1.166". Of six plain edges measured, the minimum size was 1.122", and the maximum was 1.185". The one engrailed piece measured 1.187". The weight is about average for the regularly lettered edge pieces, being 176 1/2 grains, where the maximum weight of eight lettered edge coins was 187 1/2 grains, and the minimum was 174 grains.

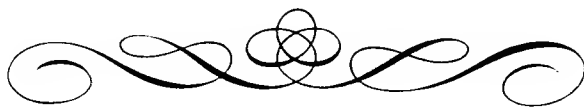
This same edge lettering appears on another token, listed by Dalton and Hamer as Lancashire No. 135. D & H No. 128 thru 134 have the reverse inscription

PAYABLE AT IN² FIELDINGS GROCER AND TEA DEALER

There were two John Fieldings in Manchester, one a warehouseman, the other, a grocer. The I in the edge devices above probably stand for John, as the interchange of I and J was a fairly common practice, as can be noted by the reverse inscription noted above.

Dalton and Hamer list the Kentucky piece as coming with a plain edge, engrailed edge, Lancaster edge and, AN ASYLUM FOR THE OPPRES'D OF ALL NATIONS. This last edge device has not been listed in any of the American catalogues, and is unknown to me. The Bedworth edge, that our catalogues list as ex rare, is not listed in D & H, nor is this new edge device.

Richard Picker



● A NEW 1787 CONNECTICUT OBVERSE, 33⁴⁶ ●

For a long time past, specialists in the Early American Series have known about an obverse die unlisted in Miller's "State Coinage of Connecticut", but no one has heretofore seen fit to publish its numismatic description. The piece in question is a 1787 variety of draped bust facing left, and is represented by at least two different specimens, both of which are combined with reverse Z(21). The coin in the accompanying illustration is from the collection of the American Numismatic Society.

This new die, according to the classification set forth on p. 25 of Miller, should really be a variety included in the first section of Group I of the numerous 33-family of obverses. But inasmuch as there are no open numbers left in this category from no. 1 through no. 9 no choice remains except to denote it as 33(46), the first available number. However, such classification is necessarily anachronistic because all varieties in Group IV (ending with Miller's 33(45),) have fillet ends pointing to the last cinquefoil. In our discovery specimen (which should be in Group I) the fillet ends point to the last colon. The following is a description of this new 1787 Connecticut die which we hereby designate, nevertheless, as obverse 33(46):

Legend, *AUCTORI: *CONNEC:* First cinquefoil mostly left of bust with its two lower foils in line with base of A. AUCTORI widely spaced, especially AU and CT. RI higher than AUCTO. Lower dot of first colon partly below base of I. Second cinquefoil wholly above hair and equidistant between colon and wreath. Third cinquefoil high. CO touches head. O low and widely spaced between C and N. NN high with second N higher than first N. EC closely spaced. Last colon in normal position with lower dot equidistant between upper dot and center of fillet ends. Last cinquefoil nearer toga than colon, and with its center slightly below upper dot of colon. Three berries in wreath.

Edward R. Barnsley

1787 CONNECTICUT
New Obverse of Variety
33⁴⁶ - Z 21



● CONNECTICUT CENT VARIETIES IN THE YALE COLLECTION ●

The numismatic collection of Yale University has accumulated over the years a good assortment of Connecticut cents, along with other Colonial material. Three of these appear to be unpublished varieties, and are worth bringing to the attention of the Colonial specialist.

1. 1787 33(35)-Z(1). This is simply a new combination of known dies. There is no reverse die break, while (for example) on the Yale example of 33(38)-Z(1) there is a decided break from the edge at about 5 o'clock through the shield. Mr. Barnsley now writes me, "The reverse die break you mention shows in my 33(38)-Z(1) and 49-Z(1) and I think in my 33(40)-Z(1). However, in my Fine example of 33(13)-Z(1) and 33(19)-Z(1) the said break is missing."

2. 1788 14(1)-S. Here too the reverse die is new. An original clip in the planchet falls where the last digit of the date should be, so that "1788" cannot be surely read. The coin is assigned to this year owing to its paring with 14(1), a 1788 obverse.

Reverse - *INDE * ET * * * LIB. *

Exergue, 178(8) The following is the original description accompanying the coin, author unknown: "First cinquefoil about equidistant from foot and I. INDE spelled INDL. (This is wrong - the right serif of the upper bar can be made out, the center bar is weak. TVB.) Second cinquefoil nearer to L of INDL (sic) than to E. Third cinquefoil nearer head than T of ET. Fourth cinquefoil between head and pole. Fifth cinquefoil nearer pole than L. Period after B. Last cinquefoil low and near shield."

Severe clicking marks of milling and legend on the reverse.

3. 1788 16(4)-A(2). Again, a new combination of dies already known. The coin is badly struck, about half of the obverse and reverse legends being off the flan. But comparison with well struck examples from the same dies makes the identification certain.

T. V. Buttrey



YALE CONNECTICUT VARIETIES



1787 33(35) - Z(1)



1788 14(1) - S



1788 16(4) - A(2)

THE FRENCH COLONIES SOUS of 1767

by Robert A. Vlack

Part II

Apparently the idea of conducting an open running research article on this series is working out to everyone's satisfaction, for I've heard nothing but favorable comments since I have started this little venture. This is very encouraging to say the least, and I certainly welcome this encouragement, but I am also open to any criticism as well, for I would like to see this project done with as much satisfaction as possible to all concerned.

Since my original article appeared with the S/N 5 Issue, 6 more varieties have turned up, thus establishing a new total of 15 different varieties. This is not all unexpected at this point and I am sure many more will turn up before this series is completed. As I had mentioned in my first article, there will be no introduction of the counterstamps yet, however, if the counterstamps were to be added to the number of varieties now located, the total would become 47. This could easily confuse this series, so at this point I shall leave well enough alone and get on with the next two varieties.

Obverse 2 - In COLONIES, 2nd 0 slightly high, I high and leans slightly right. In FRANCOISES, R leans slightly right, C is low, ES is high and slightly distant from 1st S. In L.XV, period is high and closer to arms, X leans slightly left, right upright of X is higher than left upright of V higher than the right upright.

Reverse B - SIT normal. In NOMEN, O is closer to N, M is low. DO in DOMINI is close with M leaning slightly left. In BENEDICTUM, N and D lean left, U is closer to T and is about parallel with T. Top of crown is closer to S. Leaf ends under left tip of 1. Right side of crown not connected to the center upright.

Obverse 3 - In COLONIES, L leans slightly right, I is closer to N and leans right, S is low. In FRANCOISES, R is slightly high and leans slightly right, widest spacing between A and N, and S and E, C leans slightly left, E leans slightly right. In L.XV, period is high and about midway, the XV about normal. The "A" mintmark leans left.

Reverse C - In SIT, I is closer to T, base of T slightly low. In NOMEN, last N is recut and shows at right side. In DOMINI, 1st I slightly high, 2nd I leans slightly left. In BENEDICTUM, base of B slightly low, D is slightly high and leans left. Recutting shows at the U and M and possibly the 2nd E. Top of crown about midway and extends half way up the height of the legend. Leaf ends under the extreme left tip of 1.

THE FRENCH COLONIES SOUS of 1767



2 - B



3 - C